

February 18, 2016  
Middlesex Municipal Building

The special meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Secretary Linda Chismar:

"This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice which has been forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on February 16, 2015"

Members:                Jason Bond  
                              Dan Gitler  
                              Sean Johnson  
                              Jim Gorman

Secretary                Linda Chismar

Jim Gorman made a motion to nominate Dan Gitler for the Chairman of the Commission for 2016 seconded by Jason Bond and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Dan Gitler made a motion to nominate Jason Bond for Vice Chairman of the Commission for 2016 seconded by Jim Gorman and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Chairman Gitler opened the meeting to the public. Seeing that there was no public participation, Chairman Gitler closed the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Bond made a motion to approve the December 10, 2015 and January 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Bond and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Mr. Gitler moved to accept the December, 2015 and January, 2016 Finance Report seconded by Mr. Bond and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

#### Communications

1. 300 John Street – This property will be revisited by the Commission, and DPW will be sure that the stump is on Borough Property and also that the tree that she believes is dead belongs to the borough. This will be discussed next month.
2. 609 Lincoln Boulevard – Commission has decided that this pear tree needs to be pruned and cleared around the wires.
3. 334 Fairview Avenue – Commission agreed to have the tree removed in the front of this property and replaced with a zelcova.

4. 105 Zoar Place – Mr. Gitler will go out to look at this tree in front the property that resident feels needs to be trimmed and cleared around the wires.
5. 220 Chestnut Street – Mr. Gitler will go out to look at the tree that resident feels is infested with carpenter ants.
6. 202 Chestnut Street – The two marked trees in the front of the property need to be removed.

#### Work Agenda

- (1) 220 Green Avenue – Commission recommended that a re-inspection should be done in the Spring to make an accurate assessment.

#### Unfinished Business

- (A) Increase of Fines when Removing Trees – A committee meeting will be held with the Shade Tree Liaison, Councilman Madden, to discuss the Commission's recommendation to amend the ordinance and increase the fines when removing borough trees on the right of way.
- (B) Update on Tree Management Plan – Commission discussed this plan and a Committee Meeting will be held with Mr. Bond, Mr. Madden and either Mr. Gitler or Mr. Gorman to discuss this Plan and the required participation by DPW in order to implement the plan.
- (C) Update on 52 Glen Gary Road – Additional funds have been encumbered for this job. A letter was sent to the homeowner that will be affected by this removal on Orchard Road, and he has given written approval to allow Predator to enter his property for access to the tree. The contractor is on hold pending weather conditions.

#### New Business

Commission discussed that the locust tree that is in the front of Hazelwood School (right side of new plantings) needs to be pruned.

Also, Commission requested that the DPW measure the red oak at 401 Beechwood Avenue to see if it is on the borough right of way. A branch has fallen, and if a borough tree, this tree would need a crown clean of dead wood only.

The Secretary will check with the Purchasing Agent to see if we are required to go out to bid again this year for our tree planting contractor.

Mr. Gorman requested to be registered for the free seminar on Planting the Right Tree in the Right Place the Right Way in a Post-Superstorm Sandy World to be held on March 25, 2016.

Mr. Bond moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairman Gitler and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
MARCH 10, 2016 – 7:30 PM  
MIDDLESEX BOROUGH HALL

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call Linda at 732-356-7400, Ext. 238

